

Those who strove for worldly riches and pleasures,  
The worldly-minded, who failed to use their wealth and talents in the service of God,  
Those who witnessed the death of others, but would not think of their own,  
Those who did not provide for the life hereafter,  
Those whose sentence is severe because of the great things entrusted to them,  
The Popes, kings and rulers,  
The Bishops and their counselors,  
The Priests and Religious of the Catholic Church,  
My teachers and spiritual advisers,  
The defenders of the holy faith,  
Those who died on the battlefield,  
Those who fought for their country,  
Those who were buried in the sea,  
Those who died of apoplexy,  
Those who died of heart attacks,  
Those who suffered and died of cancer or AIDS,  
Those who died suddenly in accidents,  
Those who died without the Last Rites of the Church,  
Those who shall die within the next twenty-four hours,

My own poor soul when I shall have to appear before your judgment seat,

Grant them eternal rest, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them with your Saints forever more because You are gracious.

Priest / Leader: The Lord be with you.  
Response: And with your spirit.

#### **Let us pray:**

May the prayer of Your suppliant people, we beseech You, O Lord, benefit the souls of Your departed servants and handmaids, that You both deliver them from all their sins and make them partakers of Your redemption. Amen.

May the divine assistance remain always with us.  
And may the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.

#### **Sign of the Cross**

#### **Optional Prayers**

##### **Prayer for a Deceased Person**

O Lord, God of holiness and light, You do not allow any shadow of darkness or evil in Your sight and so in Your mercy You grant to those who have left this world burdened with sin, a time of purification, applying to them the spiritual treasures of Your Holy Church. Hear my prayer and through the merits of Christ, the Blessed Virgin, the Saints, and all of Your faithful people, bring to an end this time of waiting for our beloved dead, especially for ...name... whom I commend to Your mercy.  
In Your providence, Lord, You have chosen Saint Nicholas of Tolentine as a special intercessor on behalf of the departed; hear also his fervent prayer for those whom I recommend to You, through his intercession.

##### **Prayer to St Nicholas for the Deceased**

Saint Nicholas, you were attentive to the pleas of many needy souls and through your prayer and penance you hastened their enjoyment of the vision of God. Look with compassion on our beloved deceased, and obtain for them by your prayers the full forgiveness of their sins so that they may experience the happiness and peace of the Father's presence. Amen.

##### **Jesus and Mary, I love you, save souls! (x 3)**

Saint Nicholas of Tolentine, pray for us.

##### **Prayer of Saint Gertrude**

Eternal Father, I offer You the most Precious Blood of Your Divine Son, Jesus, in union with the Masses said throughout the world today, for all the Holy Souls in Purgatory, for all

sinner everywhere, for sinners in the universal Church, those in my own home and within my family. Amen.

##### **Prayer of Cardinal Newman**

O most gentle Heart of Jesus, ever present in the Blessed Sacrament, ever consumed with burning love for the poor captive souls in Purgatory, have mercy on the souls of Your servants. Bring them from the shadows of exile to Your bright home in Heaven, where we trust that You and Your Blessed Mother have woven for them a crown of unfolding bliss. Amen.

##### **Saint Nicholas (Carruti) of Tolentine (1245-1305)**

Nicholas was a simple priest and Augustinian friar who touched the lives of many. His spirit of prayer, penance and devotion to the Holy Souls was notable. He often fasted and performed other works of penance, spending long hours in prayer. He received visions, including images of Purgatory, which friends ascribed to his lengthy fasts. He had a great devotion to the recently dead, praying for the souls in Purgatory as he travelled around his parish, and often late into the night. The story is told that Nicholas, while asleep in bed, heard the voice of a deceased friar he had known. This friar told Nicholas that he was in Purgatory, and urged him to celebrate the Eucharist for him and other souls there, so that they would be set free by the power of Christ. Nicholas did so for seven days. The friar again spoke to Nicholas, thanking him and assuring him that a large number of souls were now with God. In 1884 Saint Nicholas of Tolentine was proclaimed Patron Saint of the Holy Souls in Purgatory by Pope Leo XIII.

**Feast Day:** 10th September

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## **Rosary for the Holy Souls in Purgatory**





## Rosary for the Holy Souls

### Sign of the Cross

- V. O Lord, open my lips.  
R. And I shall praise your name.  
V. O God, come to my aid.  
R. O Lord, make haste to help me.  
V. Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.  
R. As it was in the beginning...

### Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty ...

### For the intentions of our Holy Father, the Pope:

Our Father, Hail Mary (x 3), Glory be...

- *Before each decade we pray what concerns the particular Mystery (Lord Jesus Christ...)*
- *Instead of ending the decades with Glory Be... we pray: "Lord, grant them eternal rest and let perpetual light shine upon them."*

Pray The Decades As Follows:

- *Our Father...*
- *Hail Mary... (x 10)*
- *Lord, grant them eternal rest and let perpetual light shine upon them.*
- *(Fatima Prayer:) O my Jesus, forgive us our sins, save us from the fires of hell. Lead all souls to heaven, especially those in most need of Your mercy.*

## The Sorrowful Mysteries

### 1. The Agony in the Garden

Lord Jesus Christ, through Your bloody sweat of fear that You shed on the Mount of Olives, we ask You to have mercy on the Holy Souls in Purgatory. Bring to completion their purification and console them with the Cup of heavenly comfort.

### 2. The Scourging at the Pillar

Lord Jesus Christ, through Your painful Scourging which You tolerated so patiently for us sinners, we ask You to have mercy on the Holy Souls in Purgatory! Bring them to live for ever with Christ and give them eternal relief.

### 3. The Crowning with Thorns

Lord Jesus Christ, through Your painful Crowning which You suffered so patiently for us sinners, we ask You to have mercy on the Holy Souls in Purgatory and give them the crown of eternal delight.

### 4. The Carrying of the Cross

Lord Jesus Christ, through Your painful Carrying of the Cross, which You suffered so patiently for us sinners, we ask You to have mercy on the Holy Souls in Purgatory! Bring them to the everlasting peace of perfect life with the Most Holy Trinity and lead them into eternal joy.

### 5. The Crucifixion of Jesus

Lord Jesus Christ, through Your painful Crucifixion, which You suffered so patiently for us sinners, we ask You have mercy on the Holy Souls in Purgatory! Turn Your Holy Face towards them and let them be in Paradise with You today.

*After the fifth decade we pray:*

Lord, Jesus Christ, through Your five Holy Wounds and through all of Your Sacred Blood that You shed, we ask You to have mercy on the Holy Souls in Purgatory, and in particular on our parents, spouses, relatives, spiritual guides and benefactors. Complete the healing of their purification and let them enjoy and participate fully in Your Salvation. Amen.

**Hail Holy Queen**, Mother of mercy, hail our life, our sweetness and our hope. To Thee do we cry, poor banished children of Eve; to Thee do we send up our sighs, mourning and weeping in this valley of tears. Turn then, most gracious Advocate, Thine eyes of mercy towards us and after this, our exile, show onto us the blessed fruit of Thy womb, Jesus. O clement, O loving, O sweet Virgin Mary.

**Pray for us**, O holy Mother of God

That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

### Let us pray

O God, Whose only begotten Son, by His life, death and resurrection, has purchased for us the rewards of eternal life, grant, we beseech Thee, that meditating upon these mysteries in the most holy Rosary of the Blessed Virgin Mary, we may imitate what they contain and obtain what they promise through the same Christ our Lord. Amen.

**Remember O Most Gracious Virgin Mary**, that never was it known that anyone who fled unto Thy protection, implored Thy help or sought Thine intercession, was left unaided by Thee. Inspired by this confidence I fly onto Thee, O Virgin of virgins, my Mother. To Thee I come, before Thee I stand, sinful and sorrowful. Do not, O Mother of the Word Incarnate, despise my petitions but, in Thy clemency, hear and answer me. Amen.

**St Michael Archangel**, defend us in the hour of conflict, be our safeguard against the wickedness and snares of the devil. May God restrain him, we humbly pray, and do thou, O prince of the heavenly host, by the power of God, thrust

Satan down to hell and with him all the wicked spirits who wander through the world for the ruin of souls. Amen.

## Prayer for Specific Souls in Purgatory:

O Jesus, You suffered and died that all mankind might be saved and brought to eternal happiness. Hear our pleas for further mercy on the souls of:

### *Response: Jesus, have mercy!*

My dear parents, grandparents and spouse,  
My brothers and sisters and other near relatives,  
My Godparents and sponsor of Confirmation,  
My spiritual and temporal benefactors,  
My friends and neighbours,  
All for whom love or duty calls me to pray,  
Those who have suffered disadvantages or harm through me,  
Those who are especially beloved by You,  
Those whose release is near at hand,  
Those who desire most to be united with You,  
Those who endure the greatest sufferings,  
Those who are least remembered,  
Those whose release is most remote,  
Those who are most deserving on account of their services to the Church,  
The rich, who now are the most destitute,  
The mighty, who now are powerless,  
The once spiritually blind, who now see their folly,  
The frivolous, who spent their time in idleness,  
The poor who did not seek the treasures of heaven,  
The tepid, who devoted little time to prayer,  
The indolent, who neglected to perform good works,  
Those of little faith, who neglected the frequent reception of the Sacraments,  
The habitual sinners, who owe their salvation to a miracle of grace,  
Parents who failed to watch over their children,  
Superiors who were not solicitous for the salvation of those entrusted to them,